

MI Child Support Formula - SUPPORT CHANGE

From: "Moreno, Esteban" <emoreno@ci.grand-rapids.mi.us>
To: <mcsf@courts.mi.gov>
Date: 6/25/2003 12:08 PM
Subject: SUPPORT CHANGE

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I CURRENTLY HAVE AN OPEN FOC ORDER SINCE "1999" THROUGH KENT COUNTY. I HAVE TWO BEAUTIFUL CHILDREN A BOY 10YRS AND A LITTLE GIRL WHO IS 5YRS OLD. I RECENTLY READ IN THE LANSING STATE JOURNAL THE PROPOSED CHANGES FOR THE FOC GUIDE LINES FOR NON-CUSTODIAL PARENTS. I KNOW THAT FOC HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH CUSTODY ISSUES SO I WILL TRY NOT TO ADDRESS IT. I BEG YOU TO VOTE YES ON THE CHANGES FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS.

CURRENTLY I PAY APPROXIMATELY \$1,125.00 A MONTH FOR BOTH CHILDREN. I HAVE THE KIDS 105 MANDATORY OVER NIGHTS A YEAR. THIS AMOUNT IS TAKEN OUT OF MY CHECK AUTOMATICALLY AND IS OVER 50% OF MY WAGES. I HAVE NOT MISSED A PAYMENT YET. I HAVE HAD NUMEROUS PROBLEMS WITH FOC WHICH HAS MISTAKENLY GIVEN ME BALANCE DUES AND HAS ATTEMPTED TO GARNISH MY TAXES. AT ONE POINT THEY ACTUALLY HAD ME IN THE SYSTEM AS PAYING \$1,125.00 BI-WEEKLY. ALL THIS WAS IDENTIFIED BY FOC AS A HUMAN ERROR ON THEIR PART. I STILL HAVE NOT FULLY RECOVERED FROM THIS ERROR.

SINCE MY DIVORCE DUE TO THE FINANCIAL STRESS OF THE DIVORCE AND COMMITTED SUPPORT I HAVE HAD TO FILE CHAPTER 13. MY CURRENT WIFE AND I RECENTLY HAD A SON. WE WENT TO FOC AND TRIED TO GET THE SUPPORT REDUCED. INSTEAD MY SUPPORT WAS RAISED AN ADDITIONAL \$100.00 BRINGING IT TO THE CURRENT AMOUNT. ACCORDING TO MY CASE WORKER THE LISTED AMOUNT IS CONSIDERED 50% OF WHAT IT TAKES TO RAISE MY TWO CHILDREN BASED ON THEIR HOUSE HOLD INCOME AND LIFE STYLE. I CAN NOT SEE WHERE IT TAKES \$2,250.00 A MONTH TO RAISE TWO CHILDREN.

I AM REQUIRED TO PROVIDE FOR MY CHILDREN WHICH I GLADLY AND WILLINGLY DO. I HAVE TO BEG MY EX-WIFE FOR MORE TIME WITH THEM BECAUSE I WANT TO BE A LARGE PART OF THEIR LIVES. ESPECIALLY NOW THAT THEY HAVE A STEP BROTHER THAT THEY TRULY DO LOVE.

PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE TO PROVIDE AS WELL FOR MY CURRENT WIFE AND CHILD AS HEAD OF HOUSE HOLD INCOME. I ALSO HAVE TO PROVIDE FOR MY KIDS WHEN THEY ARE WITH ME. THIS INCLUDES MEALS, UTILITIES, FURNITURE, CLOTHING AND ENTERTAINMENT ON THE 50% THAT I HAVE THAT I AM PROVIDING FOR MY WIFE AND SON. MY CHILDREN ARE MY NUMBER 1 RESPONSIBILITY! ALL THAT I AM ASKING FOR IS A CHANCE TO ENJOY THE EARNINGS THAT I MAKE WITH MY CHILDREN. IF FOC IS FOR THE CHILDREN AND ENCOURAGE THE NON-CUSTODIAL PARENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THEIR LIVES THEN HELP US DO THAT. FOC ADVISED ME THAT THEY'RE HERE TO ENFORCE THE ORDER PLACED BY THE COURTS. WHEN ASKED IF THE RECIPIENT WAS BEING HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR WHERE THE FUNDS GO THEY STATE THAT IS NOT PART OF THEIR JOB. HOW IS IT THAT FOC CAN HAVE ME ARRESTED FOR NOT PROVIDING FOR MY CHILDREN BUT YET HAVE NO AUTHORITY OVER WHERE MY SUPPORT GOES.

MY EX-WIFE TENDS TO SPEND ALLOT OF MONEY FOR PERSONAL REASONS. MONEY THAT WAS NOT AVAILABLE EVEN WHEN WE WERE MARRIED. SHE LIVES IN A \$100,000.00 + HOME WITH A POOL, POOL TABLE AND DRIVES A BRAND NEW VEHICLE. SHE ALSO HAS TAKEN NUMEROUS VACATIONS WITH OUT THE KIDS TO EXOTIC PLACES. NOW SHE HAS BECOME A OUTDOORS WOMAN. SHE HAS PURCHASED NEW FISHING GEAR, COMPOUND BOWS, GUNS AND EVEN TAKEN A TRIP HUNTING IN TEXAS. NONE OF

THESE THINGS WERE AFFORDABLE WHEN WE WERE MARRIED. I HAVE TO REMIND HER WHEN TO BUY CLOTHES FOR THE KIDS. IT WASN'T UNTIL THIS PAST YEAR THAT SHE FINALLY STARTED TO SEND CLOTHES WITH THEM ON THEIR OVERNIGHTS. I'M SORRY FOR RAMBLING ON. PLEASE JUST SEE THE IMPORTANCE AND URGENCY IN MY LETTER. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND UNDERSTANDING.

SINCERELY,
ESTEBAN MORENO